



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



PHOTO CREDIT: USAID ZAMBIA

USAID/Zambia DRG

LOCAL IMPACT GOVERNANCE

Zambia has a significant need to expand the ownership base for development with resources to match. Strengthening high-impact governance at the local level, where Zambians confront gaps in services and quality, is a promising path toward self-reliance. Designed in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Zambia, Local Impact builds the sub-national governance system's responsiveness to citizens and the private sector to advance national decentralization plans. With broader inputs for planning and budgeting, more constructive engagement between local and national authorities, and a bigger local fiscal base for services, Zambia can strengthen results-oriented governance for improved public service delivery and sustainable economic development.

- **Life of Project:** November 2020 - November 2025
- **Geographic Focus:** 2 provinces chosen in early 2021; a third added in 2023
- **Partner:** DAI Global
- **Total USAID Funding:** \$19.1 million
- **USAID Contact:** Charlene Bangwe - cbangwe@usaid.gov

Local Impact supports Zambia's Decentralization Implementation Plan in coordination with the Cabinet Office Decentralization Secretariat, Ministry of Local Government, Local Government

Service Commission, and the Ministry of Finance. The program aims to help Zambia build up a sub-national system of governance for more responsive service delivery to address citizen needs, an essential step toward national self-reliance.

The program will engage national and sub-national authorities to expand the capabilities of district-level governance bodies to deliver sustainable development outcomes, increase effective citizen and private-sector involvement in development planning and monitoring, and improve public financial management and domestic revenue generation.

An important learning and adaptive management component captures lessons and best practices to feed back into program implementation and provide the Zambian Government with a blueprint for scaling up this governance strengthening approach.

Expected Results

Local Impact will enable citizens, government, and the private sector to become far more vested in achieving and sustaining key development outcomes. Successful implementation will:

- Anchor citizen and private-sector feedback in government planning, budgeting, and performance monitoring of service delivery, including health, education, nutrition, water, and rural enterprise development;
- Strengthen development outcomes through joint problem-solving by local authorities and line ministries, aligned with national priorities;
- Boost own-source revenue and fiscal management of local authorities to more effectively deliver on current functions and build a foundation for devolved services; and,
- Spread the adoption of good practices and lessons learned to sub-national governments outside of the geographical focal area of implementation.